



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region

For Immediate Release

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Sanchez is 2014 recipient of the National Accessibility Accomplishment Award

VALLEJO, Calif., July 31, 2014 – Cesar Sanchez was recently recognized with the 2014 National Accessibility Accomplishment Award by the U.S. Forest Service. Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Randy Moore surprised Sanchez with this honor at a recent visit to the Regional Office in Vallejo, California.

Sanchez, a landscape architect with the Sierra National Forest (SNF) ensured that recreation facilities such as campgrounds and picnic sites were designed and constructed for maximum accessibility.

“Cesar not only has a willing and inclusive attitude related to accessibility, but he also teaches those involved in design of facilities, such as how to move a parking spur a few feet in one direction or another, and thereby removing slope issues which prevented the site from meeting all accessibility standards,” said his supervisor Susan Burkindine, assistant recreation officer for the SNF.

“Cesar has a strong desire to provide meaningful opportunities for forest visitors and the communities surrounding the forest recreation areas,” Burkindine continued. “Cesar is always looking for new solutions, if the first one does not succeed. He never limits his thinking to the status quo. He is a creative resource for the Forest Service.”

Among his many accomplishments, 100 percent of the recreation sites recently handled by Sanchez met accessibility standards. These included the Dowville and Billy Creek picnic sites where he created recreation facility site designs that allowed for accessibility while protecting the unique characteristics of the natural setting.

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